

**MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2024
REGULAR MEETING OF SESSION**

02760

On Monday, August 19, 2024, the 656th regular meeting of Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church was held in Galbreath Memorial Chapel. Dr. Forrest was the Moderator and opened the meeting with prayer at 7:05 pm.

Attending were Dr. Forrest and Rev. Bentley, and Elders Berrott, Eccher, Few, Galbreath, Jenkins, Locke, Ludwig, McGee, Page, Price, Ralston, Rost, Sarraf, Thornburgh, and Waller, constituting a quorum.

BUSINESS

REPORT OF THE CLERK

A motion to approve the minutes of the 655th (June 17, 2024) regular meeting of Session was made, seconded, and approved.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the membership changes indicated below.

BAPTISMS

July 14, 2024

Griffin John Shogry; Parents: Katie and Michael Shogry

DEATHS

John Steffick, August 1, 2024

MEMBERSHIP

Reactivate

Lauren McClintock MacWhinnie

Inactive by Request

David DeBor

Brian Long

Tyler Long

[Type here]

Inactive; No Response

Megan Adamo	Emily Mahla
Clay Alexandrowicz	Jeffrey Malarkey
Lauren Alexandrowicz	Jennifer Malarkey
Brooke Baker	Kason Marisa
Liz Baker	Garrett Matig
Eric Baumann	Brian McGuire
Mike Blatz	Harmony Osborne
Rose Blatz	Colin Peck
David Condre	Corey Peck
Chris Conte	Devin Peck
Faith Conte	Bridgette Pierce
Rob Conte	Rachael Pudimat
David Crayne	Bill Shepardson
Laura DeSimone	Kris Shepardson
Brittany Harshbarger	Carly Straight
Wes Harshbarger	Kevin Trout
Greta Healy	Tammy Trout
Kristen Jacobs	Corey Trout
Alyssa Klimas	Julie Trout
Deanna Klimas	

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

During worship services on Sunday, July 7, 2024, and August 4, 2024, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered to communicants.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Dr. Forrest reported the following scheduled meeting dates and topics;

Pittsburgh Presbytery, August 29, 2024, Consideration of the Candidate for General Ministry
 Pittsburgh Presbytery, October 3, 2024, Crestfield
 Congregational Meeting, October 27, 2024, Election of Officers
 Officer Retreat, January 10 and 11, 2025
 Annual Meeting, January 26, 2025, install and ordain officers, congregational luncheon

Dr. Forrest reminded Session that the Congregational Meeting will follow the format that was established by the 2023 meeting. The meeting will commence with the 8:30 worship service. Following the vote of members attending that service, the meeting will be suspended and will recommence at the 9:45 service. Following the vote of members of those members attending,

[Type here]

the meeting will be suspended and will be recommence at the 11:00 service. Following the vote of members attending that service, the meeting will be adjourned.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Nominating Committee

Dr. Forrest stated that the Officer Nominating Committee is seeking names of members to be nominees to serve as Elders and Deacons. She encouraged Session members to suggest candidates and to encourage church members, including new members, to become more involved in the Church by serving in those positions.

Conversations with Upper St. Clair High School Regarding Use of the South Parking Lot

Dr. Forrest reported that Upper St. Clair High School and the Upper St. Clair School District have requested that Westminster consider granting the High School a license that would permit students to park in Westminster's south parking lot during school hours. She stated that she and Elders Waller and Ludwig recently attended a meeting with representatives of the High School, the School District, and the Township to discuss whether Westminster would be receptive to such an arrangement. She reported that the parties in attendance agreed that if the School District were to make a formal proposal, including the amount that the District would pay to use the parking lot, the number of spaces required, and the responsibilities and potential liabilities of each party for maintenance, supervision, and insurance, such a proposal would be presented to Session for consideration.

Prior to this meeting of Session, Dr. Forrest received a formal proposal from the Superintendent and circulated that proposal to members of Session. Both the willingness of Session to agree the concept of licensing parking spaces for the use of high school students, and the terms of the offer of the School District were discussed. The consensus of Session was that it is willing to entertain an agreement to license spaces in the south lot for use by students during school hours, but that the terms of the School District's current proposal are not acceptable, either regarding compensation or regarding apportionment of responsibilities and potential liabilities of each of the parties. Accordingly, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to inform the High School, the School District, and the Township that Session approves the concept of licensing spaces in the south parking lot for the use of students during school hours. The terms of the current proposal were reviewed but were not voted on as the consensus of Session was that adequate consideration had not been given to reasonable rates for parking, the responsibilities of the parties for maintenance, and the exposure of Westminster to additional liability, and other costs. A motion was made, seconded and approved to authorize the Senior Pastor and the Operations Manager, with such consultations as they deem appropriate, to make counter proposals and to engage in continued negotiations to determine whether a licensing

[Type here]

agreement that meets the needs and concerns of Westminster can be achieved and, if the parties reach a tentative agreement, to present that proposed agreement to Session for its consideration and possible approval.

Electrical Panel Progress and Update

Elder Page, Chair of the Property Commission, reported that Westminster is waiting for West Penn Power Company to complete installation of the new transformer, which is expected soon. Once the transformer has been installed, Keystone, the contractor for the project, can proceed to complete the project on schedule. He stated that the brick to finish the structure that houses the new panel has been ordered and is expected within the next few weeks.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Forrest reported that a staff retreat will take place on August 20, 2024. She also advised that Richard Norris III, who has been ordained in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, has begun his tenure as a seminary intern at Westminster.

Dr. Forrest also reported that Jan Baumann has given notice of her resignation as Volunteer Coordinator for Westminster. Preparations for a search for a replacement are underway. Members are encouraged to publicize this employment opportunity and to suggest names of suitable candidates. Jan's resignation will be effective October 31, 2024.

In addition, Dr. Forrest informed Session that Elder Morgan Null has agreed to serve as on the Board of Managers of WECEP, LLC. Elder Null attended Westminster's Early Childhood Development Program as a child. She brings to WECEP not only her interest and personal experience in the child development program but also her knowledge and perspective as a member of the Pennsylvania Bar.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Bentley reported that the Deacons will meet during the week of August 26 to establish the schedule for administering extended communion during the coming year. She also reported that the need for Pastoral visits has increased because several members of the Church have received diagnoses of significant illnesses.

[Type here]

COMMISSION REPORTS AND ACTIONS

The following Commissions submitted written reports prior to the meeting:

- Adult Spiritual Development
- Bridge
- Children’s and Family Ministries/WECEP
- Communications
- Finance
- Outreach
- Property
- Stewardship
- Worship
- Youth Ministry

In addition, Dr. Forrest posted a comprehensive report of the General Assembly that summarizes the events of its recent meeting in Salt Lake City, including resolutions passed and issues referred to the Presbyteries for their consideration.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Meeting participants shared individual joys and concerns for the Church, its members, and their families and for the community.

ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm with prayer led by Dr. Forrest. The next regular meeting of Session will be held on September 16, 2024, in Galbreath Chapel.

Respectively submitted,



William C. Ludwig
Clerk of Session

Approved:

[Type here]